

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-12 (Cancelled).

13. (Currently Amended) A head support device for supporting a read and/or write head for recording information on a recording medium and/or reproducing information from the recording medium, the recording medium rotating around an axis of rotation of the recording medium, said head support device comprising:

a base arm operable to pivot about a first axis that is parallel to and spaced apart from the axis of rotation of the recording medium;

a support arm coupled to said base arm so as to be pivotable about the first axis with said base arm, said support arm being operable to pivot about a second axis relative to said base arm, the second axis extending through a pivot fulcrum and being perpendicular to the first axis, said pivot fulcrum being located at one of a top surface of said base arm, a bottom surface of said base arm, and a position between said top surface and said bottom surface with respect to a thickness direction of said base arm;

a flexure attaching a slider to a first end of said support arm, said flexure being fixed to said support arm at said pivot fulcrum; and

a spring member coupling said support arm to said base arm for applying a thrust force to the head, said spring member having a rigidity lower than a rigidity of said support arm.

Claim 14 (Cancelled).

15. (Previously Presented) The head support device of claim 13, wherein said pivot fulcrum is located at a tip of said base arm of a side of the head.

16. (Previously Presented) The head support device of claim 13, wherein said pivot fulcrum is located at a tip edge of said base arm of a side of the head.

17. (Previously Presented) The head support device of claim 13, wherein a center of mass of said support arm is located at said pivot fulcrum.

18. (Previously Presented) The head support device of claim 13, wherein said base arm has an aperture.

19. (Previously Presented) The head support device of claim 18, wherein a portion of said support arm is located within said aperture.

20. (Previously Presented) The head support device of claim 18, wherein said aperture comprises a first aperture, said base arm further having a second aperture.

21. (Previously Presented) The head support device of claim 20, wherein a portion of said support arm is located within at least one of said first aperture and said second aperture.

22. (Previously Presented) The head support device of claim 13, wherein said spring member is made of a resilient material.

23. (Previously Presented) The head support device of claim 13, wherein said spring member is secured to said base arm.

24. (Currently Amended) A disk drive comprising:
a recording medium;
a rotation driving mechanism for rotating said recording medium about an axis of rotation of said recording medium;
a read and/or write head for recording information on said recording medium and/or for reproducing information from said recording medium;

a base arm operable to pivot about a first axis that is parallel to and spaced apart from the axis of rotation of the recording medium;

a support arm coupled to said base arm so as to be pivotable about the first axis with said base arm, said support arm being operable to pivot about a second axis relative to said base arm, the second axis extending through a pivot fulcrum and being perpendicular to the first axis, said base arm being located between said support arm and said recording medium;

a flexure attaching a slider to a first end of said support arm, said flexure being fixed to said support arm at said pivot fulcrum; and

a spring member coupling said support arm to said base arm for applying a thrust force to the head, said spring member having a rigidity lower than a rigidity of said support arm;

wherein said pivot fulcrum is located at one of a top surface of said base arm, a bottom surface of said base arm, and a position between said top surface and said bottom surface with respect to a thickness direction of said base arm.

Claim 25 (Cancelled).

26. (Previously Presented) The disk drive of claim 24, further comprising:

an assembly incorporated with said support arm and said spring member at a side of said support arm and said spring member closest to said recording medium; and

head signal wirings connecting said head to said base arm through said support arm, said spring member, and said assembly.